

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in light of this submission. The pending Independent claims 31, 39, 45, and 56 have been amended. No claims have been added, but claims 34, 40, and 61-72 have been canceled. Therefore, claims 31-33, 35-39, and 41-60 are presented for examination. All claim amendments are fully supported by the originally filed specification, and do not add any new matter.

In the Final Office Action mailed February 05, 2007, the Examiner maintains his rejections of all of the claims as anticipated by Spencer and/or obvious over Spencer in view of Cromer. Applicant has overcome the rejections by amending the independent claims to include the recitation that the at least one packet template includes "at least two protocol layers, each of the at least two protocol layers including at least two static fields." Thus, Applicant's claims are patentably distinct in that they teach the generation of multi-layer packets from multi-layer packet templates.

Spencer, on the other hand, does not teach the use of such packet templates, notwithstanding the Examiner's contentions regarding, for example, claim 34. In fact, a part of Spencer cited by the Examiner actually teaches the contrary. At Column 8, ll. 21++, Spencer teaches that "the FDN-MAP is an identifier that specifies a template for building a Fully Distinguished Name that points to a specific component that is the source of the event, such as an interface on a router or a circuit in a switch." Thus, Spencer teaches an agent

(e.g., its trap daemon) that generates trap PDU's, but it does not teach doing it with multi-layer packet templates. Accordingly, Spencer does not render the claims unpatentable, and the rejections should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims overcome the cited prior art, and are in condition for allowance. Therefore, allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to initiate an interview with the undersigned by calling 512-238-7253 if the Examiner believes that such an interview will advance prosecution of this application.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for a three month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). The appropriate fee is included herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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